



RICHARD PALMER



J. R. WAKEFIELD



DOYLE CROWSHAW



RICHARD GILBERT



JOAQUIN VEGA JR.



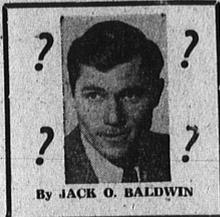
BRUCE W. SMITH



CHARLES VACA



RICHARD HATRUP



By JACK O. BALDWIN

George started something when he, she (take your choice) swallowed a Swedish hormone pill to become Christine.

For now here in Torrance comes "Louie" the Drake who suddenly became Louise the Duck when "it" laid an egg.

That's something that even Christine can't do.

Christine and Louise have much in common. They are going to have trouble finding a mate.

But I'll let 15-year-old Diane Larson, 1720 Gramercy Ave., owner of Lonely Louise tell you about it in her own words.

"Louie" is about 10 months old, and she loves our dog and is always hanging around her. At first we thought "she" was a male, but found out different when she laid an egg. (She laid January 1, 1953.) She has quite a personality, and she can get as jealous as any animal, such as a dog would. She especially hates cats. She is looking for a boy friend (single), so she can continue her race. She is now called "Louise" because of her habit of laying an egg every day. There is two things wrong with her. One: She isn't "yard-broken," and she quacks so loud when she wants something.

She wants to have little ducks so bad, because every time you go to collect her egg, she gets mad and squawks at you. Almost everybody in our block knows about her, even people we never heard of. She has her own private pool in the back yard and she also has the run of the yard too. She will ride in a bicycle basket if she has a pillow to sit on.

I won her at a carnival for 5 cents.



NEAR, RECORD . . . Sales of oil-drilling equipment manufactured by the National Supply Co. topped the \$200,000,000 mark during 1952—the second highest in the company's

history. National manufactures drawworks, engine drives, torque converters, rotary tables and other equipment for the oil and gas industries which predict that 46,230 wells will be drilled during 1953.

Pvt. J. Branum At Camp Roberts

Pvt. John C. Branum of Torrance has been assigned to Camp Roberts, Calif. to begin his military training.

Pvt. Branum, whose parents Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Branum reside at 1503 Gramercy Ave., has been assigned to Co. A 77th Armored Infantry Battalion at Camp Roberts.

The huge military installation, one of the largest replacement training centers during World War II is now the home of the "Lucky Seventh" Armored Division and is located on U. S. Hwy. 101 about half way between the cities of Los Angeles and San Francisco.

National Takes 'Conservative Attitude' Toward Future

A conservative attitude toward the future is indicated in the Annual Report of the National Supply Co., released to stockholders this week.

Net sales in 1952, \$213,043,476, were second highest in the company's history, compared with a record-breaking \$222,469,026 in 1951. Despite taxes on income of \$10,525,000, the company's net income was \$9,559,231, third largest in its history. The 1951 net income was \$10,933,308.

These records were established in spite of the steel strike which closed the company's steel pipe mills at Ambridge and Etna, Pa., for two months. Except for the strike, sales would have been from \$15,000,000 to \$20,000,000 higher and would have exceeded the 1951 record.

President A. E. Walker reported. But net income would not have equaled the 1951 figure, he said, because increases in wages, salaries, and the cost of materials and services were only partially compensated by higher prices of some of the company's products.

Earnings per share were \$8.20 compared with \$7.13 in 1951. Dividends of \$4.50 per share on the preferred stock and \$2.09 per share on the common stock were paid.

Commenting on 1953 prospects, Walker pointed out that normally 80 per cent of the company's business is done with the oil and gas industries, which anticipate drilling 46,230 wells in 1953 compared with 45,840 in 1952.

"If this prediction is correct,"

he said, "our volume of sales to the oil and gas industries should be approximately the same as in 1952. However, if our customers reduce inventories during the current year, our volume of sales will diminish."

Present prospects are that there will be no increase in sales of the company's other products, including standard pipe and electrical conduit, diesel and gas engines, castings, forgings and heavy machinery, as well as aircraft parts, gun tubes and shot for the defense program, Walker said.

"It is probable that competitive forces will keep most of our prices about where they are today," Walker reported. "With no increase in sales or important increases in selling prices, and with the reduced profit margins imposed upon us in the past year, we should expect lower net income in 1953."

"We cannot overlook the possibility of strikes which could materially reduce our sales and profits, or an increase in the production of war materials which could inflate our volume of business and moderately increase our profits. A reduction in the present high rate of taxes could afford us relief."

The company's steel pipe mills at Ambridge and Etna, Pa., were closed two months by the general steel strike. However, at the settlement of the steel wage controversy the high rate of operations was resumed, with the Ambridge plant setting a new record in tons produced and shipped in the fourth quarter.

Besides the Torrance plant, the company also has plants at Toledo and Springfield, Ohio, and Houston, Tex.

"The Springfield plant was closed one week by a strike and two other plants were adversely affected to some extent by steel shortages. Sales of oil field machinery and equipment fell off because of the company's inability to supply the needed oil country tubular goods.

Direct production for defense amounted to \$12,000,000, compared with \$6,500,000 in 1951. Most of this business was handled by the Torrance plant and by the Springfield plant.

Sales through the company's 114 field stores were at a high level, but did not reach the volume of 1951.

Working capital increased \$14,000,000 during the year, and is now the highest it has ever been, Walker said. Of this increase \$8,125,000 was provided by an increase in long-term debt and the balance of approximately \$6,000,000 from retained earnings. The working capital has about doubled in the last ten years. Walker said it now seems adequate for the present level of business.

More than 13 per cent of the company's net income originated from sales outside the United States, both through its Canadian Division and its Export Division. Expansion of drilling and production in western Canada has been an important oil industry development of the last few years.

Washington's Funeral Rated Page Three 153 Years Ago

By REID BUNDY

"On Wednesday last, the mortal past of WASHINGTON the Great—the father of his Country and the Friend of man, was consigned to the tomb with solemn honors and funeral pomp.

With that paragraph, which he relegated to page three, editor Samuel Freer of the Ulster County Gazette, began his description of the funeral of the nation's first president, George Washington.

Eight Torrance Men Together At Fort Lewis

Fort Lewis, Wash., is practically a suburb of Torrance these days.

Assigned to the 44th Infantry Division at the Washington Army camp are eight Torrance men who are taking basic training.

Assigned to Co. C, 123rd Infantry regiment are Bruce W. Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Smith, 2650 Carson St.; Charles Vaca, husband of Sander Vaca, 1890 Torrance Blvd.; Joaquin Vega Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Joaquin Vega, 20250 Hawthorne Ave.; and J. B. Wakefield, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Wakefield, 1668 W. 214th St.

Assigned to Battery B, 223rd Field Artillery Battalion are Richard A. Palmer, former Torrance Herald employee, son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew F. Palmer, 1751 Andree Ave.; Doyle D. Crowshaw, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Crowshaw, 24462 Ward St.; Richard E. Hatrup, husband of Cecelia Hatrup, 1308 Date Ave.; and Richard C. Gilbert, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Gilbert, 1610 Fern Ave.

Upon completion of basic training, the men will be assigned to permanent units or sent to other units for specialized training.

ington. The national hero had died the previous Dec. 14, 1799.

A copy of that early paper turned up this week in the hands of Walter W. Rowland, a civilian employee of the Navy Supply section of the Marine Air Corps at El Toro, Rowland, a resident of Torrance for a number of years, lives at 839 Sartori Ave.

Treasured Copy

Rowland said the copy belonged to a friend of his in Orange who had treasured it since his grandmother had given it to him when he was a child.

Now mounted in a frame between two heavy sheets of plate glass, the 153-year-old paper is well preserved and every word of it is legible.

Editor Freer described the salutes fired for the departed patriot which were fired from vessels anchored on the Potomac, the procession of military honor guards, and the bearing of his coffin to the place of entombment.

Pallbearers Named

Escorting the late president to his tomb were Colonels Simms, Ramsay, Payne, Gilpin, Marshall, and Little, the official pallbearers for the funeral.

Following the coffin were the mourners, Masonic Brethren, and citizens, according to the Gazette.

On the side of the coffin, a silver plate bore the following inscription:

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON Deceased this life on the 14th December 1799, AET 68

Included in the same issue with the funeral description were news items selected from the mail aboard ships arriving from Europe. Among the items were dispatches from Paris dated Oct. 13; Munich, Sept. 29; and Lon-

don, Oct. 20—all at least two months old.

Advertisement in the paper appeared crude by today's standards. Typical of the advertisements which today would be run as "Classifieds" is the following:

"Come to subscriber. A young Heifer, about one year old last Spring, marked with a piece cut off the right ear, a Star in her forehead, and white under the belly. The Owner by paying charges is desired to take her away. Seth Mosier."

Other noticeable differences in the newspaper of another century included the complete absence of large eye-catching headlines, which were invented nearly a century later as a means of boosting circulation.

Stories appearing in the 1800 Ulster County Gazette started in the upper left hand corner of page 1, and continued through the four-page paper to end in the lower right hand corner of page 4.

There were no pictures, no cartoons, comics, or household hints columns—just news. It's done differently today.

Night Practice Of Cat-Skinner Costs Company

Someone with a yen to be a cat-skinner cost the J. E. Haddock, Ltd., contractors several thousand dollars last Wednesday night, Torrance police were told Thursday.

Sometime during the night, someone started up one of the huge Caterpillar tractors being used on the construction site of the Union Carbide Co., and ran it into another tractor and two huge earth-moving machines doing several thousand dollars damage.

E. M. Nathan, who reported the damage to the police, said the delay in time needed to repair the damaged equipment and the cost of repairs would run to "several thousand dollars."

DRIVERS DISREGARDING FLASHING BUS LIGHTS

Drivers are still disregarding the flashing red lights on stopped school buses and, what's worse, they're still killing and injuring students, the California Highway Patrol reported this week.

The Patrol cited recent cases where several children were injured, one fatally, by motorists who sped past buses displaying the flashing red lights.

Officials pointed out that when the red warning lights are in operation, all vehicles approaching a school bus from either direction must come to a halt and remain standing until the lights go out.

The law requires the bus driver to operate the lights, "then even that danger can be minimized."

steps to take on or discharge youngsters who must cross the road or highway.

If the bus stops to pick up or let out school children who live on the same side of the road, then the driver is not permitted to flash his lights and other vehicles may proceed normally.

The Patrol said a school bus side is one of the safest ways to travel in California, but that the children faced their greatest danger crossing the road before getting on or after getting off the bus.

"If drivers will stop when they near a school bus with flashing red lights," said the Patrol, "then even that danger can be minimized."



A PEEK AT HISTORY . . . Seven-year-old John Noel Wilson, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Walter W. Rowland, 839 Sartori Ave., gets a peek at something out of the past as his grand father brings home a copy of the Ulster County Gazette, printed in New York on Jan. 4, 1800. The paper carried the description of George Washington's funeral.